



Telephone: 0300 300 1364
School email: stfergusenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk
School website: blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/stfergus/

Our Vision

'Working together to promote, excellence in achievement and well-being for all.'

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well, we cannot believe we have nearly reached September, thank you for your continued support especially with our COVID procedures which the Scottish Government have put in place for all schools. Well done to all our children who have settled back into our new school year, it has been lovely to see so many wearing our school uniform with pride!! Just a reminder that our agreed school uniform is:

- **Girls** Grey Skirt/Trousers
- **Boys** Grey Trousers
- **All Pupils** Yellow Polo Shirt or White Shirt and School Grey Jumper Sweatshirt or Cardigan

COVID Update

I know it has been difficult to follow all the rules, especially as they change depending the situation or location. Currently in schools we are still following physical distancing and mask wearing, especially at the start and end of each day where our school gate becomes crowded. Could I please ask all parents, when dropping off and picking up, to leave this area as soon as possible and not congregate in groups, thank you in advance for your understanding. A reminder of the staggered start and end times:

Class	Start Time	End of Day
P1 & P7	8:45am	2:45pm
P2 & P6	8:50 am	2:50pm
P3 & P5	8:55am	2:55pm
P4	9am	3pm

In line with the wider changes to self-isolation guidance, in the event of a positive test, schools are no longer involved in contact tracing. This is now conducted by the Test and Protect team. You should continue to inform the school of any positive test results or if a pupil has been identified through test and protect and asked to isolate and go for a PCR test. Those with a positive test should continue to follow the guidance and isolate for 10 days. Those who receive a negative PCR results can return to school, even if a household member tests positive, as long as they do not display any symptoms.

Nut, Mango and Kiwi Allergies

We are a nut, mango and kiwi free zone as we have children with severe allergies which, for these children, is life threatening. I would ask for your co-operation and ensure that no nuts, mangos or kiwi's are brought in to school for snack or lunch. Please note that these ingredients can be found in flavoured water, chocolate spread, biscuits, cereal bars etc. Please always check the ingredients.

Flu Vaccination Letter

Our date for the annual Flu vaccination is Friday 2nd November, please return you child's letter to the school office by Friday 10th September. If anyone has misplaced this, please telephone the school office and a replacement letter can be issued.

Staffing Update

We are delighted to welcome new members of staff to our team, Miss Danni Gaston and Mrs Marta Arbat-Wozniak. Miss Gaston is covering for Mrs Hunter, who is working from home due to her pregnancy and she will be supporting children in Primaries 4- 7. Mrs Arbat-Wozniak is our new Classroom Assistant funded by the Pupil Equity Fund. I am sure you will join with me in welcoming them both into our school community.

Annual Data Forms

These have already been given out to all children via their school bag, if you have yet to complete and return to the school could I please ask that this is done by Friday 10th September. It is important that we have correct contact details for every child, therefore if there are any changes after these forms are submitted please let the school know in writing.

The Cost of Going to School

There are a number of expenses connected with going to school: uniform, lunches, snacks, travel, PE kit, etc. In addition, from time to time, parents may be asked to contribute to the cost of school activities. At St Fergus' we try as much as possible to subsidise costs using school funds, however, the school recognises that families may still find it difficult to meet some of these expenses at times. I would ask that any parent concerned about expenses related to going to school, contact me. All such approaches will be dealt with in the **strictest confidence** and the school will always try to help.

P.E. Days

P1	Monday and Thursday
P2	Monday and Wednesday
P3	Wednesday and Thursday
P4	Tuesday and Thursday
P5	Tuesday and Friday
P6	Monday and Wednesday
P7	Tuesday and Friday

We are now able to change for PE in our changing rooms and we ask that children ensure that they have their kit with them on these days. All items of jewellery including earrings must be removed for P.E. lessons and the school cannot accept responsibility for any item which is lost or stolen.

Breakfast Club

I have had confirmation this week that we are able to resume our breakfast club on Monday 6th September, however due to staffing there is a limit on the places available. Please complete the online request form by 12 noon Thursday 2nd September by clicking on the link below or by scanning the QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/r/8AFNYhDetT>



All places will be balloted, and you will be informed on Friday at the end of the school day via email if your child has a place. All unsuccessful requests will be held on a waiting list.

School Office Times

Just a reminder of our office times, 8:30 -1:20pm and 2- 4pm. Please be patient out with these times as there may not always be a member of staff to answer the door or telephone.

Team Around the Child Meetings

As part of our yearly calendar of support meetings all children will be discussed this term with regards to the Wellbeing Indicators of Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included.

During these meetings myself, Mrs Rowley, your child's class teacher and Elizabeth, our Inclusion Support Assistant will be present for these discussions. Should you wish more information regarding this please do not hesitate in contacting the school office to arrange a suitable telephone appointment with myself or Mrs Rowley.

Administration of Medicine

During the course of any year some pupils will require to be given medication at school. Parents are asked to note the following points should this apply to their child:

- Medication will be administered by authorised members of staff at the discretion of the Head Teacher. This will only be possible when a Parental Permission Form is completed. Forms are available from school office, when required
- School staff are not permitted to give non prescribed medication to pupils (e.g. calpol, antihistamines, cough medicines etc)

- Pupils requiring antibiotics should have dosage arrangements made, such that the antibiotic can be taken before and after school wherever possible
- Medicines will be stored in a secure location not accessible to pupils. Exception to this is asthma inhalers which **MUST BE READILY AVAILABLE WHEN REQUIRED**. Inhalers will be kept by pupils in school bags and pupils will self-administered as required. Supervision by school staff can be arranged if parents are concerned about their child's ability to administer correctly. This arrangement would normally apply only to younger children in Primaries one and two or pupils recently diagnosed.
- No pupil will be allowed to take part in school outings without essential medication. This includes **ASTHMA INHALERS**. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that **INHALERS** and other essential medications are provided. If these are not available then unfortunately pupils must be asked to remain in school.

A copy of Renfrewshire Council's policy "Guidance on the Provision of Health Care in Schools" is available from the Head Teacher by request. The above advice, relating to practice in St Fergus' Primary school, is reflective of this policy.

Pupil Achievements

We are always looking for reasons to celebrate pupils' successes here at St.Fergus' Primary and I have been overwhelmed by the amount of pupils who are keen to share information about their personal achievements. Please continue to share these with us by sending an email to the school, a Facebook/Twitter message, or via their SEESAW account. Please note that their achievements do not need to be something that they have won a medal or certificate for. Pupils who have worked hard at something and reached a target or goal will be very welcome. All of the children will have their photograph taken for our Achievement Wall in the Gym Hall. I am sure we will soon have a fresh and plentiful display of Confident Individuals, Successful Learners, Responsible Citizens, Effective Contributors and Faith Disciples.

Diary Dates

The diary dates are now available to be viewed on our website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/stfergus/information-2/diary-dates/>; however **please note that some may change**. I will do my best to keep you informed of any changes in our monthly newsletter and on our website.

Device's survey

Last year we asked parents to respond to the survey below to ensure that we know which families need support with digital technology, we had 85 responses which allowed us to support families with mobile data, MIFI devices and access to Chrome Books. Again, we know that with all types of technology things can change and we want to make sure we have correct information. The survey takes less than a minute to complete and we would appreciate if every family complete the survey by clicking on the link below or by scanning the QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/r/mMLf2HmDPF>



Maths Week

Scotland 28th September – 4th October is Maths Week Scotland. During this week we will be exploring Maths in our everyday lives. Mrs McDougall and Mrs Coyle will be organising some exciting activities for across the school and class teachers will have a Maths focus during this week.

Parent Council

Our AGM will take place on **Thursday 16th September at 4:45pm**.

Should you wish to join this meeting please complete the online form by using the link or QR Code below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/VFaMwstaXa>



School Improvement Plan / Standards and Qualities Documents

These documents are now available to read online on our school website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/stfergus/information-2/improvement-plan/>

Please take a few minutes to read these documents and if you have any questions or suggestions, I would be happy to discuss these with you.

School Photographs

Your children will have received their proof home on Monday 30th August, orders are now completed online only. For free delivery to the school, the orders will need to be completed by Monday 6th September, thereafter there is a charge and will be sent straight to your home address. P1 and P7 Class photograph proofs will be given to the children when the school receives them from the photographer.

Bikes and Scooters

It has been lovely to see so many of our children cycling or scooting to school as it contributes to children's general health and well-being. However, to ensure the safety of everyone entering and exiting the school playground we would ask you to remind your children to come off their bikes or scooters prior to entering Bankfoot Road.

Parent Pay

We are now live and have become a cashless school. Should you need support in creating your parentpay account please speak with Elizabeth who can help you with this.

Are You Getting What You Are Entitled To?

Free School Meals

Your child may be entitled to free school meals if:

- Your child attends a Renfrewshire school or has been placed in an educational establishment outside Renfrewshire by Renfrewshire council, or;
- You receive income support, any income-related element of employment and support allowance, maximum working tax credits (if you earn less than £6,420/year), child tax credit only (if you earn less than £16,190) or pension credit

Apply online at: <http://renfrewshire.gov.uk/Freeschoolmealsandclothinggrants>

Eligible parents who choose NOT to apply for free school meals will not get money back dated.

Clothing Grants

Parents or carers of children attending Renfrewshire primary, secondary or additional support needs schools during the school session who satisfy the financial conditions are eligible to apply for free school meals and/or clothing grants. A clothing grant is a payment made by Renfrewshire council to qualifying parents or carers to assist with the purchase of school uniforms. For session 2020-2021, the level of clothing grant is £100 per eligible pupil. A maximum of one grant will be paid for each child during any school year.

Apply online at: <http://renfrewshire.gov.uk/Freeschoolmealsandclothinggrants>

September Holiday

The school will close on Thursday 23rd September at 3pm and reopen on Tuesday 28th September at 8:45am. We are all hoping that the weather will be kind to us!

Kind Regards,

Mhairi McDonald

Mhairi McDonald
Head Teacher



September

2021

St. Fergus' School Calendar



PLEASE NOTE ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES TO BE ADDED

Our Vision

'Working together to promote, excellence in achievement and well-being for all.'

Our Aims

- ✚ To understand the value of God's Love in our school and local community.
- ✚ To promote a positive attitude and mindset to learning.
- ✚ To use our voices to promote positive changes for all.
- ✚ To provide a happy, safe and stimulating learning environment for all.
- ✚ To develop skills for learning, life and work in our curriculum.
- ✚ To support each child's needs in their unique learning journey.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 P2 to Mass	2	3 P1 to Mass	4
5	6 P7 to Mass + Confessions	7	8 P6 to Mass + Confessions	9	10 P5 to Mass + Confessions	11
12	13 P4 to Mass	14	15 P3 to Mass	16 Parent Council Meeting 4:45pm - zoom	17 P2 to Mass P7 Vocations Mass -Virtual 10am	18
19	20 P1 to Mass	21	22 P7 to Mass	23 Non-Uniform Day £1	24 Holiday	25
26 Maths Week Scotland	27 Holiday	28 School re-opens	29 P6 to Mass	30		